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NSC BRIEFING

5 August 1954

1954 YANGTZE RIVER FLOOD DISASTER

- I. Unprecedented rainfall in Yangtze valley this spring and summer has caused one of worst floods of century.
 - A. Major disaster to food crops and homes.
 - B. Peiping publicly says is successfully combating flood conditions.

II.

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NSA

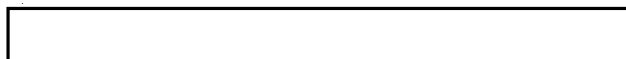
- A. Railroad washout south of Hankow in early July.
- B. Anking airfield flooded.

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- C. River level in June already
above plain at many points,



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III. Last report (31 July) shows height
well above any previously recorded.

- A. Bad 1931 flood affected 100,000
square miles, 25,000,000 people,
and did US\$1,290,000,000 damage.

- B. Our belief that this year's
damage to food crops must be
comparable to 1931, despite flood
control activities.

IV. Area affected by flood is where most
of China's rice is grown.

- A. Loss expected to be millions of
tons.
- B. Will offset excellent North China
harvests.



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[REDACTED]

C. Will significantly increase
regime's financial and food
problems, and reduce supply
available for export.

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[redacted] 4 August 1954

NEW SOVIET MA's IN SATELLITES

Since mid-1953, USSR has replaced its Military Attache in each of European Satellites. New appointees are:

- Albania (arrived Sept 53)
Lt. Gen. A.I.Rodimtsev, Hero of Sov. Union
- Hungary (Nov 53)
Lt. Gen. M.F.Tikhonov, HSU
- Bulgaria (Dec 53)
Lt. Gen. M.N.Zavodovski, HSU
- Rumania (Dec 53)
Lt. Gen. D.I.Smirnov, HSU
- Poland (April 54)
Lt. Gen. V.R.Vashkevich *Marshall*
- Czechoslovakia (July 54)
Col. Gen. A.P.Beloborodov, HSU *Rokossovski*
[initials]

In general, these appointees have more distinguished combat records than their predecessors. All commanded corps or higher during World War II, and all but one hold the highest Soviet decoration. Five are of the Soviet two-star rank, while Czechoslovakia continues to be accorded an attache of one higher rank.

Soviet MA's in the Satellites are responsible for general supervision and training of individual Satellite armed forces. Recent appointments of highly competent professional officers signifies new phase in Satellite military development, with emphasis on improving combat efficiency.

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